EXHIBIT C

Summary of the Environmental/Exclusion and Avoidance Areas Analysis Completed for Reroute Locations

Dakota Access Pipeline Project

North Dakota PSC

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Completed for Reroute Locations
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N.D.C.C. § 49-22-16.3 Reroutes

Dakota Access, LLC has completed environmental surveys for the Dakota Access Pipeline Project (Project) across affected tracts. The environmental survey consisted of land use assessment, a wetland and waterbody delineation, threatened and endangered species assessment, and cultural resources assessment (See the attached Cultural Survey Summary). This document provides a summary of the environmental survey methodology completed along the Project route and datasets utilized to complete the PSC reroute analysis of exclusion and avoidance areas.

The attached tables correspond to the environmental analysis and evaluation of exclusion and avoidance areas completed for each reroute location as described below.

Environmental Survey Methodology

Biologists conducted the environmental survey within a defined environmental survey area (400-foot corridor centered on the pipeline). The following provides a brief description of the methods utilized to complete the environmental survey.

Land Use Assessment

Vegetation community types occurring along the Project route were identified, described, and delineated based on data obtained during field surveys and review of aerial photography. During field surveys, vegetation communities were described as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) wetland delineations and classification of land uses. To be able to compare the original filed route with the reroutes, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Land Cover database was utilized to determine the land use for the reroute environmental analysis.

Wetland and Waterbody Delineation

Biologists conducted a wetland and waterbody delineation to identify and record physical features that may be considered "waters of the United States," as defined by the USACE. "Waters of the United States" include most wetlands, rivers, creeks, streams, lakes, and tributaries. The delineation was conducted in accordance with the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Great Plains* (USACE, 2010) and the routine determination guidelines provided in the USACE *Wetland Delineation Manual* (Technical Report Y-87-1). The field delineated wetland and waterbody data was utilized in the environmental analysis and is included in the mapping exhibits.

Threatened and Endangered Species Assessment

Biologists conducted a threatened and endangered (T&E) species assessment to determine the presence or absence of federally listed threatened and endangered species and potential suitable habitat within the environmental survey area.

Exclusion and Avoidance Areas

Exclusion and avoidance areas [North Dakota Administrative Code Section 69-06-08-02 (1 and 2)] were included in the analysis for the site suitability evaluation process; information on how data was gathered for these areas and results of the review is described below:

69-06-08-02	**Transmission Facility Corridor and Route Criteria**	
1	**Exclusion areas**	**Results**
1.a.	**Designated or registered national: parks, sites, landmarks, monuments, wilderness**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county exclusion areas; in addition, any of these potential exclusion areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "National, State, or County Exclusion Areas" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area.
1.b.	**Designated or registered state: parks, sites, monuments, archeological sites, natural preserves**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county exclusion areas; in addition, any of these potential exclusion areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "National, State, or County Exclusion Areas" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area.

1.c.	**County parks and recreational areas, municipal parks, parks owned or administered by other governmental subdivisions**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county exclusion areas; in addition, any of these potential exclusion areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "National, State, or County Exclusion Areas" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area.
1.d.	**Areas of critical habitat**	Potential T&E habitat data was collected in the field, as described above under Environmental Survey Methodology. *See* Exhibit G, "T&E/Rare Species Critical Habitat" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area.
1.e.	**Areas where unique or rare species would be irreversibly damaged**	Potential T&E habitat data was collected in the field, as described above under Environmental Survey Methodology. *See* Exhibit G, "T&E/Rare Species Critical Habitat" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area.
1.f.	**Area within 1,200 feet of ICBM facility**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county exclusion areas; in addition, any of these potential exclusion areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "City Limits or Military Installation" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area.

1.g.	**Areas within 30 feet of direct line of ICBM launch facilities**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county exclusion areas; in addition, any of these potential exclusion areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "City Limits or Military Installation" column for the results of the review of this exclusion area
2	**Avoidance Areas**	**Results**
2.a.	**Designated or registered national: historic districts, wildlife areas, wild, scenic or recreational rivers, wildlife refuges, grasslands**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county avoidance areas; in addition, any of these potential avoidance areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "National, State, or County Exclusion Areas" column, which also encompasses a review of all national avoidance areas, for the results of the review of this avoidance area.
2.b.	**Designated or registered state: wild, scenic, recreational rivers, game refuges, game management areas, forest management lands, grasslands**	Publically available datasets were utilized to evaluate national, state, or county avoidance areas; in addition, any of these potential avoidance areas would have been identified during the Project title vetting process. *See* Exhibit G, "National, State, or County Exclusion Areas" column, which also encompasses a review of all national avoidance areas, for the results of the review of this avoidance area.

2.c.	**Historical resources which are not specifically designated as exclusion or avoidance areas**	*See* Exhibit G, "Historic Resources or Landmarks" column for the results of the review of this avoidance area. *See also* Exhibit D, Cultural Resource Summary.
2.d	**Areas which are geologically unstable**	The U.S. Geological Survey Landslide Susceptibility national dataset was utilized to determine landslide susceptibility of the reroute locations. *See* Exhibit G, "Geologically Unstable Areas" for the results of the review of this avoidance area.
2.e.	**Within 500 feet of a residence, school, or place of business**	There are no residences, schools, or places of business within 500' of the route modifications that would require a waiver of this avoidance area.
2.f	**Reservoirs and municipal water supplies**	Publically available datasets were utilized to implement avoidance of known reservoirs and municipal water supplies during the initial routing analysis. The same datasets were utilized to evaluate the route modifications and no reservoirs or municipal water supplies were identified.

2.g.	**Water sources for organized rural water districts**	Dakota Access coordinated with rural water districts to obtain locational data on existing and planned rural water district transmissions lines and source locations. While multiple transmission lines are being crossed with the Project, Dakota access will implement permit-specific code and industry-complaint crossing techniques to meet applicable district guidelines. No known rural water district sources are being impacted by the route modifications.
2.h.	**Irrigated land**	Google Earth aerial imagery was reviewed at each reroute location. Acreages within the Project footprint were calculated in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) if irrigated lands were identified. *See* Exhibit G, "Irrigated Lands" column for the results of the review of this avoidance area.
2.i.	**Area of recreational significance but not designated exclusion areas**	There are no areas of recreational significance not designated as exclusion areas that will be impacted by the route modifications

Prime Farmland

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) SSURGO database was utilized to determine which soil types would be crossed at the reroute location. Once the soil types crossed were identified, the NRCS Web Soil Survey was utilized to determine if any of the soil types within the County were considered prime farmland.

Woodlands and Wetlands

For woodlands, forested land use types identified by the USGS National Land Cover database were utilized.

For wetlands, as described above under Environmental Survey Methodology, field delineated wetlands were utilized in this analysis.

100-Year Floodplain

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100 Year Flood Zones national dataset was utilized to determine if the reroute locations were located within the 100-year flood zone. Many of the reroute locations were in areas that did not have FEMA floodplain data available.

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